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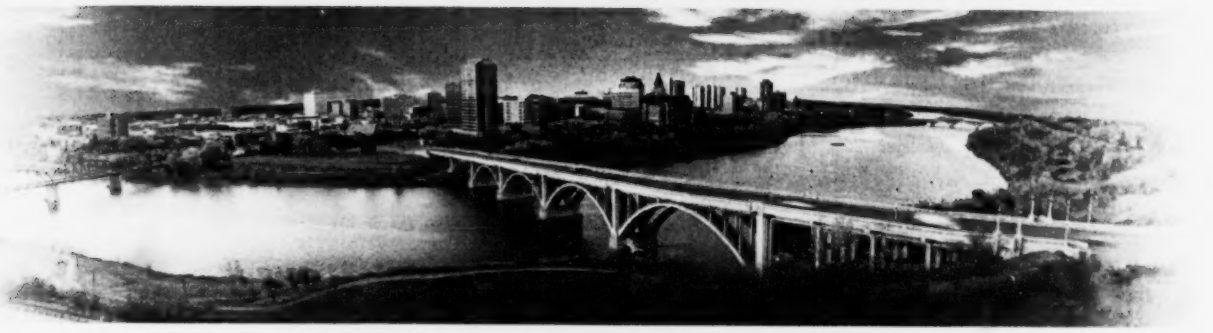

Annual Report City of Saskatoon

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City of Saskatoon

100 Saskatoon Our time to shine — 2006 —

Presented to City Council, March 13, 2006

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Introduction

The Administration is pleased to present the 2005 Annual Report which highlights, in brief, the major civic-related events that occurred in the past year for each of the eleven core strategies identified in the Corporate Business Plan.

"Saskaboom"

The headline in a national newspaper said it well - Saskatoon had the fastest growing economy in 2005 - and it was evident in every corner of the city.

In our downtown, land sales were confirmed for a hotel/spa on River Landing, and an agreement was reached with Persephone Theatre for a new live performance theatre. A landmark entitled "Prairie Wind" was selected for the Century Plaza, and construction on the riverfront continued. Downtown also saw the reconstruction of 25th Street, the opening of Parkville Manor, and the commencement of a new condominium at Spadina Crescent and 24th Street. As well, construction started on the new 12 screen Galaxy Theatre on Block 146.

continued

Introduction

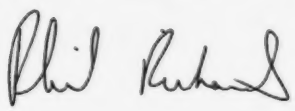
Design work for the new riverfront, the remodeling of the old electrical building, the design of Riversdale Square, and soil remediation occurred on River Landing Phase II. As well, the concept plan for the Blairmore Suburban Centre was approved. This will allow the creation of two new high school sites, a major recreation facility, and commercial space. Servicing of the site began in the fall of 2005. Saskatoon welcomed its newest neighbourhood, Stonebridge, as survey work commenced on that site.

The federal government, in its February budget, provided all municipalities across Canada with their share of the fuel tax. This allowed the City to proceed with the construction of an overpass at College Drive and Circle Drive, the design of the widening of the Circle Drive Bridge, and the design of a new south bridge and related roadways.

Construction commenced on a new park, soccer center, and new high school in the University Heights area, while the Willowgrove and Briarwood neighbourhoods continued their growth and expansion.

The creation of an Urban Development Agreement with both levels of senior government will allow many initiatives in our core neighbourhoods to commence. As well, the Enterprise Zone program has been very successful in supporting business in core neighbourhoods.

In 2006, Saskatoon celebrates its centennial with many activities being planned, and as in 2005, 2006 will definitely be our year to shine!



Phil Richards, City Manager

Core Strategy

Economic Development

Strategy: Create an environment that encourages economic development.

Continue development of River Landing.

Phase I

Complete hard surfacing of riverfront park.

The first stage of the riverfront construction included establishing and armouring the new shoreline, construction of shore walls, earth fill, and rough grading. Also completed in 2005 were stairs leading from the riverfront to the backshore lands, the river outlooks, and the pedestrian bridge.

Complete Expression of Interest/Request for Proposal process and select hotel/spa/ residential developer.

Following a two-stage Expression of Interest/Request for Proposal process, an agreement with Remai Ventures Inc. was reached to build a hotel/spa and restaurant complex on River Landing Phase I. The project will generate between 140 to 200 jobs and up to $40 million in investment. Construction is scheduled to begin in the spring of 2007.

Issue cultural block Expression of Interest and forward recommendations to City Council.

An Expression of Interest was issued on April 22, 2005 to identify interested, not-for-profit organizations, governments, government agencies, or the private sector with proposals for the destination attraction, landmark, public space, and visitor centre. A technical review committee short-listed two proponents and developed a capital plan for the building. Following a market assessment study, City Council deferred the development of the destination attraction.

Complete negotiations with Persephone Theatre.

Negotiations were completed with Persephone Theatre, resulting in agreements for the sale of land on River Landing Phase I, the provision of a $1 million grant, a property tax incentive, and amendments to the cultural grant policy, which were all finalized in 2005. The projected start of construction for Persephone Theatre is the summer of 2006.

Core Strategy

Economic Development continued

Begin commissioning for Second Avenue landmark feature.

In May of 2005, City Council approved a two-stage national commissioning process for the design and construction of the Second Avenue landmark. The first stage attracted 25 international, national, and local artists, designers and architects. From this list, the selection jury short-listed six applicants. City Council chose "Prairie Wind" designed by Lee-Koopman Projects/Friggstad Downing Henry Architects. The project is scheduled to be unveiled in the fall of 2006.

Phase II

Design and construct Farmers' Market/ Business Support Centre/Village Square.

Stantec Engineering was contracted in 2005 and has produced preliminary programming, design, and elevation plans for the Farmers' Market/Business Support Centre/Village Square. A final report will go to City Council in 2006.

Complete environmental mitigation of the A.L. Cole brownfield.

Clean up is substantially complete at the A. L. Cole brownfield site, and the City will do the final shaping and clean up in spring 2006.

Develop design and master plan of the riverfront park.

Following initial stakeholder consultations and two visioning workshops, Crosby Hanna and Associates is in the process of finalizing the riverfront park master plan. A report will be brought to City Council in the first quarter of 2006.

Complete plan of subdivision.

While preliminary street and streetscape designs have been developed, the Phase II subdivision plan will be completed in 2006.

Facilitate the development of Block 146.

Civic administration worked with Princeton Developments and Galaxy Theatre (both site owner and developer) to attract them to Block 146. This culminated in the issuance of a building permit to Galaxy Theatre for a 12 screen, 2,600 seat theatre. Construction commenced in August 2005, with a planned opening for June 2006.

Core Strategy

Economic Development continued

Coordinate and plan the development of major regional retail centres.

Preston Crossing III

A formal application for a development plan for Preston Crossing III was received in December 2005. The City Planning Branch will process the application for Development Plan amendment – DCD3 Guidelines.

Stonegate

The City continues with ongoing negotiations with the Stonegate shopping centre developer, First Pro, for a servicing agreement and construction of the Clarence Avenue and Circle Drive interchange. As well, the final stages of the development process are underway, subject to overpass funding.

West Sector (Blairmore Suburban Centre)

The West Sector (Blairmore Suburban Centre) Concept Plan was approved by City Council in 2005. The site area grading and installation of underground utilities has started. In addition, the design of Phase I was completed in 2005. Tenders and construction for the big-box site are expected to start in 2006.

Produce progress report and review options for continuation of the Enterprise Zone Initiatives.

A progress report on the Enterprise Zone was completed for City Council, and a review of program options will be presented to City Council in 2006.

Ensure sufficient serviced industrial land is available.

Service Faithfull Crescent.

Servicing in the Faithfull Crescent area is completed and approximately 10 acres were sold; the balance of land is available for sale over-the-counter.

Design and budget for Hudson Bay Industrial Area.

The Hudson Bay Industrial Area design is complete, and servicing of the Lambert Crescent area (10 acres) has commenced and will be completed in 2006. The Prairie Pride site servicing has also been completed.

Design and implement services for heavy industrial land in the Marquis Industrial Area.

The preliminary design is complete for the heavy industrial land in the Marquis Industrial Area, with

Core Strategy

Economic Development continued

detailed design and construction in 2006 for the underground facilities. In addition, roadways will be constructed in 2007.

Complete design of upgrade to Airport Drive.

The Airport Drive Master Plan design has been completed and was approved by City Council in December 2005.

Complete servicing of C.N. Industrial Area.

The servicing of the C.N. Industrial Area has been delayed until 2006 due to weather conditions and contractor shortages.

Ensure balanced growth as outlined in the Future Growth Study.

Implement West Sector Servicing Phase I.

The water and sewer servicing for the West Sector was started in 2005, and will be completed in 2006.

Table Northeast Sector Study with City Council.

The Northeast Sector Study is complete and will be tabled with City Council early in 2006.

Complete study of East Sector.

The East Sector draft report is complete and will be tabled with City Council early in 2006.

Complete concept plan for Stonebridge neighbourhood and initiate servicing.

The Stonebridge concept plan has been approved by City Council; the first phase of servicing, such as construction of trunk sewers and storm water ponds, has commenced. The roadwork will start in 2006.

Commence concept plan for Rosewood and Brookside.

The concept plans for Rosewood and Brookside are underway and will be presented to City Council in 2006.

Present the University Heights Sector Plan in 2005.

The University Heights Sector plan is complete, and will be tabled with the Northeast Sector and East Sector future growth reports in 2006.

Complete a review of economic development policies in the Saskatoon Planning District Development Plan in cooperation with the R. M. of Corman Park.

Civic administration is preparing a final report for 2006 of the economic development policies in the Saskatoon Planning District Development Plan, followed by implementation of the strategy in June 2006.

Core Strategy

Economic Development continued

Develop growth objectives in conjunction with Saskatoon Regional Economic Development Authority.

The City of Saskatoon is initiating research on the overall growth and sustainability indicators for the Federal fuel tax reports.

Complete commercial/industrial land and floor space inventory database.

The commercial/industrial land and floor space inventory database is well underway and is at the halfway point for completion.

Redesign highway entrance sign program.

Install one sign on Highway 11.

A tender call for the entrance sign on Highway 11 was issued in December 2005, and is ready for award, pending final site approval. The sign installation will occur in spring 2006.

Incorporate sign into the College Drive and Circle Drive overpass.

The highway sign design for the College Drive and Circle Drive overpass is being finalized and the signage will be installed in 2006 during overpass construction.

Facilitate the redevelopment of North Downtown.

Streetscape 25th Street from University Bridge to Second Avenue.

25th Street, between Second Avenue and the University Bridge, was completely reconstructed to include left-turn lanes and a full streetscape treatment.

Extend 25th Street from First Avenue to Idylwyld Drive.

Design work for 25th Street from First Avenue to Idylwyld Drive will continue in 2006, along with negotiations with the two railway companies whose tracks intersect this site. Construction is projected to start in 2007.

Core Strategy
Service Delivery

Strategy: Optimize the effective and efficient delivery of services.

Pursue alternate methods of civic service delivery.

The City initiated a six-month pilot project where drivers could make parking meter payments via their cell phone.

Continue to explore cogeneration opportunities.

Civic administration explored the feasibility of utilizing municipal solid waste as a fuel for generating electricity. Staff are reviewing various alternatives including using landfill gas and biosolids for energy.

Complete feasibility study on automated water/electric meter reading.

The feasibility study on automated meter reading was completed and a Request for Proposal was issued in December 2005.

Complete and table Strategic Plan for Transit Branch.

The Transit Strategic Plan is complete and the implementation of the short-term strategy has commenced with the new service set to start July 2, 2006.

The new service involves route changes (directions, stops, length of journey, fewer transfers, new service areas), as well as the introduction of a totally new service called BRT (bus rapid transit). The BRT will have the most traveled routes funneling through a hub system, with the city's most popular destinations (downtown and the University) serving as major transfer points. The BRT will also operate on a faster schedule, in specially-marked buses. To further enhance the service by making the customers' trip more comfortable, the City has purchased 17 new state-of-the-art buses that include features such as upgraded interiors and air conditioning. Four of these new buses will be hybrid/diesel. These buses are more fuel-efficient and reduce greenhouse gas emissions to help the City of Saskatoon achieve its environmental goals. The new bus terminals at the University and Market Mall locations will not only enable more expedient service, but will also improve safety and convenience for

Core Strategy

Service Delivery continued

customers. Other customer improvements include a new automated telephone information system to provide callers with up-to-date schedule information and accurate next bus information, as well as general, route-specific or stop-specific public service bulletins. These high quality customer service and new service quality improvements will increase ridership by an estimated 1.2% the first year, and 5% in year two.

City Council has approved that the new downtown transit terminal be built at the existing location. The owners of Market Mall have agreed to cover the costs of the new transit terminal at Market Mall. The estimated completion date for this project is June 2006.

Pursue partnership opportunities with other levels of government and other private and public institutions.

Formulate mutual response agreement for disasters and major emergencies with the University of Saskatchewan.

Saskatoon Fire and Protective Services continues to meet with the University of Saskatchewan on emergency planning, response, and mitigation of possible major emergencies. Discussions have been entered into for a formal agreement. There is joint membership in the Saskatoon Emergency Planning Committee and the Saskatoon Industrial Mutual Assistance Committee. The purpose of the Committee is to ensure that the planning process and integration of emergency plans allow for the identification and resolution of areas of incongruity or contention. The Emergency Planning Committee is an important component of the City of Saskatoon Emergency Measures Organization.

Formulate mutual response agreement for disasters and major emergencies with major private institutions.

The Saskatoon Fire and Protective Services Department continues active membership in the Saskatoon Industrial Mutual Assistance Committee comprised mostly of private industry involved in the manufacture, processing, and shipping of regulated goods and material in and around Saskatoon. The purpose of the Committee is to identify needs, share resources and expertise, and to provide response

Core Strategy

Service Delivery continued

representation and mutual understanding between business, industry, and local and provincial governments.

In conjunction with the University of Saskatchewan, continue to review public transportation issues on campus.

To help review public transportation issues on campus, Saskatoon Transit has a staff person on the USSU (University of Saskatchewan Students' Union) Transportation Committee. Also, draft designs have been prepared to accommodate additional bus service at the front of Place Riel, and are being reviewed by the University.

Explore feasibility of converting solid waste collection and disposal into a utility.

Complete audit of solid waste collection.

The audit of solid waste collection was completed and presented to City Council in 2005. As a result of the review, the solid waste collection service will remain as a civic department, rather than become a utility.

Continue to explore informal partnership arrangements with the University of Saskatchewan.

Phase II of the biodiesel transit research project was completed in December 2005 with the final report to be completed by April 2006. The Administration met with Western Economic Diversification and made a request to continue the project with the new diesel hybrids in 2006.

The Administration is continuing to investigate options for the new University of Saskatchewan transit terminal. The temporary proposal before the Board of Governors is to pursue a temporary terminal with a long-term option to be developed in 18 to 36 months.

The City of Saskatoon is planning a pilot-scale demonstration project for landfill gas (LFG) collection and monitoring. The City has partnered with the University of Saskatchewan, the National Research Council, and various local companies with the intent to achieve ambitious goals in research and development for LFG generation rate and capture, biogas generation potential, moisture addition potential, leachate

Core Strategy

Service Delivery continued

recycling, and potential and rapid stabilization delivery. The City has received approval for funding from the Federation of Canadian Municipalities Green Municipal Enabling Funds for $262,500. At the end of the project, a full scale LFG project will be considered, which would assist the City of Saskatoon in meeting its Greenhouse Gas Reduction Targets.

Work with Provincial government and other municipalities to update and streamline legislation affecting civic service delivery.

Planning and Development Act

The Planning and Development Act review is ongoing from 2005, and the Community Services Department is leading the corporate response, as well as coordinating with other stakeholders for this review.

Liquor and Gaming Regulations

The Development Services Branch will be leading the corporate response to the Liquor and Gaming Regulations review; however, no start date has been received from the Province.

Heritage Properties Act

The Development Services Branch will lead the corporate response to the review of the Heritage Properties Act; however, no start date has been received from the Province.

Core Strategy
Customer Service

Strategy: Customers come first – provide responsive and flexible customer service.

Complete study into expansion of Smart Card technology.

The Smart Card study has been completed, with the results tabled with the Administration and Finance Committee. It was determined that the technology is continuing to evolve, and as such, the use of Smart Card technology will be revisited in one year.

Continue to implement on-line services.

The initial development of all applications for on-line services such as meter reading, parking ticket payments, parking permits, interactive map, and tendering services has commenced. However, implementation is subject to the rollout of the City of Saskatoon's new internet portal site in May 2006.

Leisure Services Program Registration

The Leisure Services On-Line program registration project was successfully implemented in December 2005. On the first night of registration, 550 people or 48% of leisure registrations were done on-line; in December, there were 2,298 total registrations with 836 or (36%) done through Leisure On-Line. A follow-up survey indicated that 100% of those on-line users enjoyed the service and found it easy to use.

Conduct civic service delivery survey and include in-depth survey into previous year's anomalies.

The 2005 Civic Service Survey indicates that the quality of life (83%), the overall level of services delivered by the City of Saskatoon (72%; note: this drop in rating is probably due to a difference in methodology in the survey this year), and the value received for municipal tax dollars (88%) continues to be rated good or very good by citizens.

Develop and implement communications strategies emphasizing:

Property Maintenance Bylaw

Saskatoon Fire and Protective Services continued with their communication of the Property Maintenance Bylaw through brochures, a listing of the Health and Safety Hotline in the City's Blue Pages in the phone

Core Strategy

Customer Service continued

book, and speaking engagements with schools, community associations, and service clubs.

Property Tax Breakdown

The format of the property tax notice was revised to increase clarity of the distribution of taxes to the various taxing authorities (the City of Saskatoon, Public or Catholic School Board, and the Library).

Pet Licensing

The communications strategy for pet licensing was continued in 2005, and emphasized responsible pet ownership and pet licensing. In addition, the Pet-At-Large (PAL) card was introduced featuring quick reference information, key phone numbers, and a running-at-large fine and/or pound fee waiver.

Recycling/Waste Diversion

The on-going recycling/waste diversion communications involve the annual "Saskatoon Recycles" brochure, which is inserted in the April utility bills to 80,000 customers. The brochure lists what items people can recycle and where to take them. In addition, there was promotion for the annual Household Hazardous Waste Collection days, Earth Day, and Christmas tree recycling. In the fall, to celebrate Waste Reduction Week, the "Caught in the Act" campaign was initiated, randomly rewarding people 'caught in the act' of recycling. A new recycling depot on Lowe Road was also officially launched.

New Branding for the Electric System Branch

The branding strategy for the Electric System Branch included a name change to Saskatoon Light & Power, differentiating between the areas where Saskatoon Light & Power and SaskPower serve, as well as a continued emphasis on excellent customer service. The campaign included print and radio advertising, stuffers in all utility bills explaining the name change and the service area of Saskatoon Light & Power, new logos on all equipment and uniforms, and an open house tour of the Saskatoon Light & Power building for the public.

Implement automated transit fare boxes.

The implementation of automated transit fare boxes has been deferred until such time that the software required to support Smart Card technology is more readily available.

Core Strategy

Environmental Commitment

Strategy: Exercise responsible, progressive environmental management in the provision of all civic services.

Maximize the life of the existing landfill beyond 25 years.

Design and construct new south cell at landfill.

Construction of the first stage of the new south cell at the landfill commenced in 2005 and commissioning is scheduled for the end of May 2006. The second stage will be built when needed in the future.

Continue conversion of back-lane to front-street garbage collection.

There were no conversions from back-lane to front-street garbage collection in 2005. The potential for a front-street conversion in the Holliston/Haultain neighbourhoods was reviewed. Rather than the front-street conversion occurring, the semi-automated rear lane collection was converted to fully automated. Discussions have also occurred with the Riversdale and Westmount neighbourhoods regarding front-street collection.

Review the provision of recycling depots.

The City of Saskatoon is continuing to construct and upgrade recycling depots. The University Heights recycling depot officially opened in spring 2005.

Promote recycling and waste diversion initiatives.

Many recycling and waste diversion initiatives are underway. Civic administration is studying the feasibility of using municipal solid waste to generate electricity. The City partnered with the Saskatchewan Waste Reduction Council to promote composting (including the composting demo site and the Master Composter Training Workshops), Earth Day, and Waste Reduction Week. During Waste Reduction Week, the City ran a campaign, "Caught in the Act of Recycling" and rewarded recyclers at the depots with prizes. Both a spring and fall Household Hazardous Waste Day were held, collecting various toxic items to keep them out of the landfill. The Saskatoon Recycles brochure, which lists what and where items can be recycled, was distributed to all residents with their utility bills. In 2005, the City collected 6,465 tonnes of paper, cardboard, and newsprint for recycling. Nicholson Yards was open in the spring and fall for leaves and grass drop offs. In addition, the leaves and grass subscription pickup program continued in various areas of Saskatoon. In 2005, 1,178 tonnes of leaves and grass were collected and recycled through these two programs. Discussions have begun with the Parks

Core Strategy

Environmental Commitment continued

Branch to implement a composting pilot project on the east side of the city and funds have been requested in the 2006 budget to set up the facility. Between 40% and 50% of Saskatoon's waste stream is compostable material that could be diverted from the landfill and made into material that could be used by the Parks Branch, for cover at the landfill, and potentially for sale to residents. Habitat for Humanity has been approached to discuss ways of diverting useable materials from the landfill. The City's Environmental Protection Officers continued to educate the public through information drop-off (leaflets, pamphlets) and discussions with citizens.

Ensure high standards in the provision of water and wastewater processes.

Construct a sludge handling facility at the Water Treatment Plant.

Construction of the sludge handling facility at the Water Treatment Plant is expected to be completed by October 2006 and fully commissioned by the end of 2006. The facility will ensure that any sludge resulting from the clarification and filtration processes in water treatment are handled in a more environmentally safe manner and not released back into the river.

Construct a grit handling facility at the Wastewater Treatment Plant.

The conceptual design for the grit handling facility at the Wastewater Treatment Plant has been completed. The terms of reference for the final design have been prepared, and design is to be completed in 2006, with construction expected by mid-2007.

Construct a new water intake – upstream of the landfill.

Modeling for the new water intake upstream of the landfill is expected to be completed by spring 2006, with the detailed design to be finished by fall 2006. Construction will begin in fall 2006, with completion by the end of 2007.

Construct addition to water filter plant.

Filter pilot plant testing is being carried out, and following the testing, a decision will be made on the type of filters to be utilized for the expansion of the existing Water Treatment Plant.

Develop odour abatement plan for the Wastewater Treatment Plant.

The upgrade and expansion of the grit and screen facility will be the first initiative for 2006 at the Wastewater Treatment Plant. The odour abatement plan will follow in the future.

Construct new ultraviolet disinfection system at Water Treatment Plant.

Further conceptual design work is being carried out on the options of installing ultraviolet disinfection at the Water Treatment Plant.

Core Strategy

Environmental Commitment continued

Continue to pursue innovative environmental management programs.

Formulate a procedure to mitigate water run-off from industrial firefighting efforts.

Saskatoon Fire and Protective Services (SFPS) identified the need to address water run-off from industrial firefighting, and submitted an application to the Federal and Provincial Governments through the Joint Emergency Preparedness Program to purchase a Haz-Mat SensID System designed to identify unknown liquids and solids at emergency scenes. SFPS received $49,000 in funding to support the purchase. Additionally, SFPS has met with both Infrastructure Services and Utility Services to develop a coordinated procedure to contain and pick up run-off water from industrial firefighting.

Develop and implement Environmental Management System for the corporation.

On November 14, 2005, City Council endorsed the City's Environmental Management System (EMS) policy statement and Administration is preparing for a corporate rollout. The pilot project for the Water Treatment Plant has continued to develop and improve. Plans to complete this pilot and implement an EMS into various other civic areas are underway. The benefits of an EMS include documenting and improving environmental performance by optimizing costs, reducing wasted raw materials, and reducing waste disposal costs. It encourages environmental responsibility among all employees and contractors, and provides a framework for continuous improvement.

Construct sound attenuation walls on the Idylwyld Freeway, between Ruth and Taylor Streets and between the river and 8th Street; and at the Circle Drive and College Drive interchange.

Sound attenuation wall construction commenced in 2005 on the west side of Idylwyld Drive between Ruth Street and Taylor Street; between 8th Street and Saskatchewan Crescent; and on the east side of Idylwyld Drive between Kilburn Avenue and Saskatchewan Crescent. These locations will be completed in 2006.

Continue to examine green power options.

Civic administration is studying the feasibility of wind power and utilizing municipal solid waste to generate electricity, and is working with the University of Saskatchewan and consultants to assess various options.

Implement road salt management plan, as per Transportation Association of Canada Advisory Committee.

City Council approved the road salt management plan in June 2005, and construction of new salt and aggregate storage facilities began, with completion planned for early 2006

Core Strategy

Environmental Commitment continued

Continue to construct bicycle network.

Shared-use bicycle pathways were constructed in 2005 at the following locations:

- Attridge Drive from Berini Drive to Lowe Road
- Boychuk Drive from Briarwood Road to 8th Street
- Circle Drive from 37th Street to Airport Road
- 14th Street from Circle Drive to Cumberland Avenue

Also, signs indicating the existence of a bike route on the street were installed on 14th Street from Cumberland Avenue to Saskatchewan Crescent.

Review feasibility of replacing traffic light bulbs with light emitting diodes (LED).

The City of Saskatoon has begun to replace traffic signal bulbs with light emitting diodes (LEDs), and this will be on-going over the next three years. New installations of traffic signals will use LEDs as well. LEDs use less energy and last longer than regular traffic signal bulbs.

Develop and implement climate change programs as mandated by the Kyoto Protocol.

Establish greenhouse gas baseline (1990).

The greenhouse gas baseline has been completed and was presented to City Council in November 2005.

Establish reduction targets from baseline.

The greenhouse gas reduction targets and a corporate reduction strategy were accepted by City Council in November 2005.

Establish reduction strategy.

In partnership with RoadMap 2020, the City of Saskatoon has applied for FCM (Federation of Canadian Municipalities) funding to complete a Local Action Plan that will develop initiatives/strategies to begin working toward meeting the City's greenhouse gas reduction goals as approved by City Council.

Continue to remediate contaminated sites.

Former A. L. Cole site.

The remediation of the A.L. Cole site is complete except for 2,500 tonnes of material that exceeds commercial criteria. This material will be removed in 2006.

Avenue K (north side) and 20th Street.

The redevelopment plan for Avenue K and 20th Street has been approved. The site cleanup and demolition is planned for early 2006, followed by the anticipated start of residential development.

Core Strategy

Infrastructure Management

Strategy: Build, maintain, and operate the City's infrastructure in a manner that maximizes current infrastructure, fosters growth, and is fiscally sustainable.

Address issues with respect to future growth.

Finalize alignment of south and north river crossings.

The North River Crossing Study (perimeter road east) is complete, and will be presented to City Council in early 2006. The functional planning study for the South River Crossing will be presented to City Council during the first quarter of 2006.

Begin final design of south river crossing.

The final design of the south river crossing will begin in 2006; it was delayed due to the Mitchell's Gourmet Foods relocation.

Construct overpass at College Drive and Circle Drive.

The construction of the overpass at College Drive and Circle Drive is underway, with completion in 2006.

Widen Circle Drive Bridge.

The widening of the Circle Drive Bridge and Circle Drive, between Attridge Drive and Warman Road, was approved as part of the 2006 Capital Budget. Construction will occur in 2006 and 2007.

Design and construct new neighbourhood development.

Finalize concept plan and servicing for Stonebridge neighbourhood.

The Stonebridge neighbourhood concept plan was completed in 2005 and site servicing is underway.

Continue to service Willowgrove lots.

A total of 225 lots in Willowgrove were designed for servicing in 2005. Sixty-four lots were completed, with the balance of 161 lots to be completed in 2006, along with an additional 275 lots being designed and serviced in 2006.

Continue to service Hampton Village lots.

A total of 38 residential lots and three multi-family sites in Hampton Village were serviced by the end of

Core Strategy

Infrastructure Management continued

2005. These lots will be offered for sale in January 2006. Nine other residential lots and three multi-family sites were not fully serviced in 2005 and will carry over to spring of 2006, along with 54 new residential lots.

Continue to service Briarwood lots.

In Briarwood, a total of 83 residential lots were serviced in 2005 and will be offered for sale in January 2006. The balance of the City's ownership in Briarwood (66 lots) will be serviced in 2006.

Complete design and begin implementation of West Sector servicing.

The design of the Blairmore Suburban Centre (formerly called the West Sector) has been completed, and area grading and underground servicing has commenced.

Maintain and preserve existing physical assets.

Monitor long-term funding requirements to address deterioration of existing assets.

The City of Saskatoon will continue to maintain civic facilities utilizing the Civic Buildings Comprehensive Maintenance (CBCM) Reserve and a comprehensive maintenance approach.

Complete review of sanitary sewer system to determine condition and appropriate rehabilitation methods.

The sanitary sewer system review is nearing completion, with a report expected by fall 2006. In addition, doing spot repairs to sanitary sewer mains using trenchless technology has been incorporated as a new, less expensive method of rehabilitation.

Implement city-wide storm water management master plan.

The implementation of a city-wide storm water management master plan has been delayed until 2006 due to the need to investigate the June 29, 2005 rainstorm.

Encourage infill development.

Through the Enterprise Zone, Urban Development Agreement, tax incentives, and other initiatives, the City of Saskatoon encourages infill development.

Conduct a parks condition audit.

The parks condition audit report has been completed and will be presented to City Council in 2006.

Core Strategy

Infrastructure Management continued

Seek alternative locations for office space.

Negotiations are underway with Canada Post regarding additional office space for civic staff.

Report on neighbourhood design options and evaluation methods.

A planning/engineering consultant has been engaged to review neighbourhood design options and evaluation methods to ensure they are flexible and cost-effective. In 2005, the City of Saskatoon received the Premier's Award of Excellence in Design for Neighbourhood Design for the Willowgrove neighbourhood.

Review and rewrite Infrastructure Services Department's construction development standards and technical specifications.

A Request for Proposal was issued in 2005 to assist with the review/rewrite of the Infrastructure Services Department's construction development standards and technical specifications. The review will be completed in late 2006.

Core Strategy

Aboriginal Partnerships

Strategy: Build on the strengths of our existing relationships with Aboriginal communities.

Collaborate with Federal, Provincial, and Aboriginal governments in addressing urban/aboriginal issues.

Pursue affordable housing initiatives.

The City of Saskatoon continued support to CUMFI (Central Urban Metis Federation Inc.) and Quint Development Corporation to deal with core neighbourhood housing issues.

Continue formal annual meetings between Saskatoon City Council and each of the Saskatoon Tribal Council and the Métis Nation - Saskatchewan.

Informal meetings were held between representatives of the City of Saskatoon and representatives of the Saskatoon Tribal Council.

Continue to work with Saskatoon Regional Economic Development Authority to encourage Aboriginal employment and training opportunities.

A partnership between Saskatoon Regional Economic Development Authority, (SREDA), Western Economic Diversification, and the Saskatoon Tribal Council resulted in the establishment of an organization entitled the Corporate Circle. While funding no longer exists for this initiative, a number of these members are members of the International Association of Native Employment (IANE), of which the City is an active member.

Core Strategy

Aboriginal Partnerships continued

Develop partnerships with Aboriginal educational institutions to create awareness of City of Saskatoon job requirements.

The City of Saskatoon partnered with the Saskatoon Tribal Council, Saskatchewan Indian Institute of Technology and Career and Construction Services in offering a Pool Operator's Level 1 program for potential building custodians. In addition, presentations were made to a number of aboriginal educational institutions, including Saskatoon Indian Institute of Technology (SIIT), First Nations University, Aboriginal Students Union of the University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon Tribal Council (GED preparation program), and St. Mary's School. The presentations included an overview of the employment recruitment process and career opportunities with the City of Saskatoon.

The City of Saskatoon also attended job fairs and career expositions in Prince Albert and Saskatoon sponsored by the Prince Albert Grand Council, SIAST, SIIT, METSI, and the Saskatoon Tribal Council.

Explore partnership opportunities with Aboriginal governments.

The City of Saskatoon participated with the Whitecap Dakota First Nation to work with the Department of Highways to improve Highway 219 to the Whitecap Dakota First Nation. Discussions were also held with the Whitecap Dakota First Nation to explore the development of the Chief Whitecap Park. Civic administration has had discussions with the Whitecap Dakota First Nation regarding their wastewater treatment, and has met with SIGA (Saskatchewan Indian Gaming Authority) and Whitecap Dakota First Nation regarding transit service to the Whitecap casino. In addition, the Fire Services Agreement with the Whitecap Dakota First Nation continues. Saskatoon Fire and Protective Services (SFPS) conduct annual inspections of all properties on the Whitecap Dakota First Nation reserve and provide a report to their Administration. SFPS also conducts monthly training sessions for Whitecap's volunteer firefighters and maintains the fire apparatus and vehicle that is leased

Core Strategy

Aboriginal Partnerships continued

from the City of Saskatoon. That vehicle was also leased in 2005 for the training of student firefighters under the supervision of Saskatchewan Indian Institute of Technologies (SIIT).

A servicing agreement was reached by the City of Saskatoon with the Muskeg Lake First Nation to expand the development of their site in Sutherland.

An agreement was reached by the City of Saskatoon with the One Arrow First Nation for the development of a reserve on 20th Street West.

The City of Saskatoon continues to participate in discussions with, and provide advice and expertise to, Saskatoon Tribal Council, Habitat for Humanity, Communities for Children, Core Neighbourhood Youth Cooperative, and representatives from Saskatoon Police Service with regard to a Pleasant Hill activity house. The group has reached consensus on a two-stage plan to implement this concept. City Council approved a $50,000 contribution to the first phase of this plan to provide a facility on 20th Street for a skills centre for inner-city youth and a meeting space for community organizations.

Explore educational opportunities with First Nation educational institutions.

A strategic partnership with SIIT (Saskatoon Indian Institute of Technology) was developed, and in 2005, City staff received Workplace Hazardous Material Information Systems (WHMIS) training on-line through the SIIT facility.

Core Strategy

Community Development

Strategy: Enable active community-based participation in issue and problem identification, and resolution.

Implement the enhanced public participation and consultation plan.

The concept plan for enhanced public participation/ consultation was endorsed by City Council in July 2004. A draft framework for implementation of the public consultation concept plan has been completed and presented to senior managers for review and comment. A final report will be presented to City Council for its approval prior to rolling it out to the rest of the corporation, the community associations, and to the general public.

Continue to pursue affordable and/or innovative housing initiatives.

Promote new downtown housing incentives.

There are ongoing promotions of new downtown housing incentives, in conjunction with The Partnership (downtown business improvement district).

Implement downtown housing demonstration project.

A Request for Proposal for the 5th Avenue and 25th Street housing site is anticipated in 2006, subject to a successful relocation of parking commitments currently on this site.

Initiate demonstration projects in core neighbourhoods.

The Avenue K and 20th Street concept plan was approved in 2005, which involves the demolition of buildings, remediation of the site, and the first phase of residential development in 2006.

Under the leadership of the Central Urban Metis Federation Inc., a renovation project at 102 and 104 Avenue U South and 101 Avenue T South reclaimed 36 rental units for the Pleasant Hill neighbourhood. The project serves families with incomes less than $30,000

Core Strategy

Community Development continued

and rents are aimed at matching provincial shelter allowances. The complex includes a daycare (two of the units), tot lot, and potential for other on-site supports for the residents. Total reinvestment in the neighbourhood totalled $1,443,000.

Facilitate public input into the ongoing review process of the development plan.

Undertake review of Riversdale and City Park over course of next three years.

A review of the Riversdale and City Park plans are in progress, and are scheduled for completion in June 2006.

Implement a Local Civic Committee concept.

The implementation of a Local Civic Committee was determined to be not feasible on a city-wide basis.

Implement approved Local Area Plan recommendations.

The implementation of Local Area Plan recommendations is ongoing, and a progress report was tabled with City Council in 2005.

Assist Citizens' Centennial Committee in fulfilling its mandate.

Community Development staff have been working with the Citizens' Centennial Committee and are now in the process of completing a "Special Events Planning" manual which will help the community associations "centennialize" their special events day for this coming summer. It will also be a manual that can be used for planning all future special events.

Staff from the City Clerk's Office has provided administrative support to the Citizens' Centennial Committee, and the Communications Branch has assisted with public relations, advertising materials, and special event planning.

Proceed with implementation plan for community centres and integrated facility proposal.

Design and construct a multi-purpose programming space in the Briarwood neighbourhood.

The Briarwood Community Centre was completed early in 2005, and the official building sign-off occurred in October. The community association and community residents held their first official meeting in the building during the first week of November. Community Services staff is now working with the community association on a formal operating agreement for the long-term operation of the facility.

Design and build integrated facility in the Willowgrove neighbourhood.

Community Services staff is working with the two school boards in planning for the development of

Core Strategy

Community Development continued

Willowgrove. They are in the process of drafting a terms of reference for a Request for Proposal to hire a consultant to complete two design options for construction of the two elementary schools and a community centre.

Develop concept plan for an integrated facility in the West Sector.

The concept plan for the West Sector was approved by City Council in June 2005 including funding for Phase I development of the civic leisure facility. The Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for development of the site by the City of Saskatoon, Saskatoon Public Schools and Saskatoon Catholic Schools was approved by City Council in October 2005. The partners' architects are preparing construction drawings for the high school, collegiate, and Phase I of the civic centre for tender in January/February 2006 with the opening scheduled for September 2007.

Develop a strategy to address deteriorating housing in core neighbourhoods.

Develop a safe housing certification program.

Saskatoon Fire and Protective Services (SFPS), in partnership with the Planning Branch, arrived at an agreement with the Department of Community Resources and Employment (DCRE) for the inspection of rental properties under the Home First Rental Supplement Program. The agreement was approved by City Council in October 2005. Implementation of the program began on November 1, 2005 with the expectation that in excess of 1,000 properties will be inspected annually. SFPS will receive $75 for each inspection. This program will serve to improve the standards of the rental housing stock in Saskatoon.

Continue to promote and facilitate city-wide ward meetings.

Ten public meetings were held in October/November 2005, one in every ward across Saskatoon. The Mayor, Ward Councillor, and civic staff were on hand to answer any questions from the public. Over 400 people attended the ward meetings.

Core Strategy

Employee Relations

Strategy: Encourage and support employees to achieve corporate objectives by reaching their full potential.

Ensure leadership continuity of all key positions.

Review succession plans annually.

To aid with succession planning, senior managers reviewed a five-year list of potential retirees. The intent was to develop action and training plans to support staff to achieve necessary competencies, thus preparing them to become eligible candidates for future senior level positions within the corporation.

Continue Management Development Program.

In 2005, the Management Development Program underwent an evaluation, which confirmed that it assists the development of leaders throughout the corporation. This Program was also awarded the Canadian Association of Municipal Administrators (CAMA) Education Award for municipalities over 20,000, which also recognized the City's success in providing opportunities for training in effective leadership for management staff of the City of Saskatoon. As at December 31, 2005, 119 City of Saskatoon managers/supervisors were enrolled in this program.

Encourage career planning and professional development.

The corporation administers personal development training opportunities, customized training initiatives, individual employee career planning and consultations, and tuition reimbursement funding in support of enhancing the knowledge, skills and abilities of employees. In 2005, Employee Services processed 96 tuition reimbursements, and celebrated the graduation of 21 employees from various professional development/training sessions.

Core Strategy

Employee Relations continued

Support the health and well-being of employees.

Increase education and awareness of health and safety for civic employees through initiatives such as monthly educational sessions, special events, wellness consultations, incentives, provision of flu shots, and physical activity subsidies.

To support the health and well-being of employees, blood pressure, cholesterol screening and back care clinics were held throughout the corporation, together with Weight Watchers and stop smoking sessions. In addition, the City continued to host special events such as the Annual Health Fair, 10,000 Steps Walking Challenge, Annual Fun Run/Walk, Pfizer Wellness Day at Transit, and a motivational speaker. Awareness of the importance of safety in the workplace was also increased through various safety award recognition events held in 2005.

Reduce frequency and severity of accidents and injuries by developing action plans resulting from safety audits (e.g. provision of back care clinics and awareness campaigns).

The Injury Prevention Committee continues to meet three to four times annually to implement programs to reduce injuries in the workplace. In 2005, the City received a Certificate of Achievement from the Workers' Compensation Board, which in turn, reduced the City's premium. This was a result of the reduction to the City's severity rate, which is the duration of time an injured employee is away from work. This reduction is attributable to the City's Return to Work plan.

Continue employee recognition programs.

There are a number of employee recognition events held by the corporation, i.e. The Long Service Awards Banquet, Occupational Health & Safety Awards, Safe Driver Awards, and the Ideas Unlimited Program.

"Ideas Unlimited" received 24 submissions of ideas from employees in 2005. An awards luncheon was held in early January 2006 recognizing 10 employees for their contributions.

Implement attendance support strategy.

The Attendance Support Process was introduced through training sessions for managers and supervisors in spring/fall 2005. In October 2005, branch managers

Core Strategy

Employee Relations continued

communicated the Attendance Support Process to all employees. The Attendance Support Process is to ensure that attendance is monitored in a consistent and positive manner.

Continue accommodation initiatives through the Disability Assistance Program.

Minimize the impact on employee illness or injury by assessing employee's abilities, matching with appropriate work, and providing modified work and/or reasonable accommodations where possible.

The Disability Assistance Program, which aims to accommodate ill/injured employees so they can return to the workplace, is currently being updated to streamline the process which employees follow to access program services and to ensure consistent support for all employees.

Complete and table results of internal communications study and employee morale survey.

An internal communications/morale survey was conducted in late November 2004, and the results were received in February 2005. The response rate from employees was 45.7%, much higher than the industry average of 33%. Generally, the City of Saskatoon exceeds public sector organizations in the comparison database. For example, the City ranks 29% higher than other public sectors in terms of the extremely high personal pride employees take in their work. Additional key strengths from the survey show that 89% of respondents agree that the City of Saskatoon is a good place to work; 75% of respondents would recommend their departments as a great place to work; and 82% of respondents are strongly committed to making the City of Saskatoon a customer service oriented organization. The summary report found that the City "...is doing a good job communicating both as an organization and internally. The data does not point to any significant breakdown." In response to some of the report's general suggestions, the Communications Branch has placed the civic newsletter "Currents" on the City's intranet, explained the survey's results in an issue of Currents, and has offered communications training to managers.

Core Strategy

Fiscal Responsibility

Strategy: Manage the collection, stewardship, and allocation of public funds in the delivery of municipal services in a fiscally responsible way.

Ensure that future generations are not financially responsible for the benefits received by today's residents.

To maintain current levels of service, future property tax increases, fees, and charges will use the Consumer Price Index (CPI) as a benchmark.

The current level of service was maintained during 2005 within the Consumer Price Index. Service enhancements were approved which impacted both property taxes and utility rates.

Maintain "pay as you go" philosophy for recurring capital investments.

The "pay as you go" practice, for recurring capital investment, has been maintained.

Incorporate opportunities arising from the Federal Government's "New Deal" into the City's long-term capital financing program, including the consideration of leveraging these funds, for strategic borrowing, to address the City's infrastructure backlog.

A borrowing strategy for a number of transportation projects has been approved by City Council, using the annual gas tax revenues as a source for repayment. In

Core Strategy

Fiscal Responsibility continued

addition, discussions are underway with respect to federal transit funding.

Report on the implementation of an interchange levy.

An interchange levy was approved in principle by Executive Committee. Further discussions are now required with the stakeholders with respect to implementation.

Ensure a fair, open, understandable, and defensible provincial assessment process through the effective management, communication, and implementation of assessment reform leading towards a modern, market-oriented assessment system.

Initiate a pilot project on the Rental Income Approach to Value, in cooperation with the Combined Business Group, with a specific focus on hotel/motel and retail properties.

The pilot project on the Rental Income Approach to Value was completed. The results will assist in ensuring appropriate legislation is in place prior to the 2009 market value approach to revaluation.

Provide an annual increase to the mill rate to address capital funding shortfalls.

A financing framework was approved by City Council to use incremental assessment revenue to leverage borrowing in order to address the infrastructure projects backlog.

Continue to pursue alternate sources of revenue.

Assist in lobbying efforts for Federal and Provincial funding initiatives.

The City of Saskatoon participated in a number of meetings including the Big City Mayors' meetings (through the Federation of Canadian Municipalities), as well as the Saskatchewan City Mayors/Managers meetings, and the Saskatchewan Urban Municipalities Association, to pursue confirmation of federal transit

Core Strategy

Fiscal Responsibility continued

funding and to re-examine the process used to determine provincial revenue sharing.

Explore revision to storm water levy to apply on an area basis.

Civic administration is continuing to review an area-based storm water levy.

Negotiate and approve new Urban Development Agreement with Federal and Provincial governments.

The Urban Development Agreement was signed June 21, 2005, and the first proposal (involving remediating a contaminated site and inner-city reinvestment) was tabled September 2005.

Negotiate new Bulk Power Rate Agreement with SaskPower.

Negotiations for a new bulk power rate are continuing with SaskPower.

Assess and improve sourcing, procurement, and payment for goods and services.

The results from an external review of current sourcing and procurement practices were assessed in 2004/2005. Further discussion and potential revisions will continue in 2006. In addition, a new five-year bulk natural gas contract was negotiated with CEG to supply all civic facilities.

Core Strategy

Multicultural Cooperation

Strategy: Recognize the cultural diversity of our community and support growth through immigration.

Implement a cultural diversity and race relations policy, including measurement and monitoring process.

The cultural diversity and race relations policy was finalized in February 2004, and an implementation plan was subsequently developed. The Cultural Diversity and Race Relations Coordinator continues to work with the community in achieving the community outcomes stated within the policy. One of the measurement/ monitoring tools is to periodically obtain a sense of the state of race relations in Saskatoon. A survey of the community was completed in 2005 to assess the overall opinion of race relations; the results of this survey will be reviewed and compared against a 2003 survey.

Work with Federal Government, Province of Saskatchewan, and Saskatoon Regional Economic Development Authority to encourage expanded immigration to the province and the city.

SREDA (Saskatoon Regional Economic Development Authority) has held meetings with Provincial officials to expand immigration.

Prepare an issue paper to address employment opportunities and retention of immigrant population in Saskatoon.

Civic administration has hired consultants to complete the issue paper on employment opportunities and retention of immigrants. The paper will be completed and presented to City Council by the end of April 2006.

Continue to promote and support multicultural initiatives.

Host the Anne Frank Exhibit in May 2005.

The Anne Frank in the World Exhibit was successfully hosted this past spring/summer and was a vehicle for addressing intolerance and racism. The Exhibit attracted a record number of people and received great reviews from the community.

Core Strategy
Community Safety

Strategy: Optimize the safety and security of our community.

Maintain timely, efficient, and effective response of emergency services.

Complete study to support growth requirements for Saskatoon Fire and Protective Services staff and resources on the east side. Purchase land, design, construct, and staff new east side fire station in 2006/2007.

Saskatoon Fire and Protective Services (SFPS) completed and presented a growth plan identifying SFPS's future needs to service existing and future growth on the east side. The plan will see a new fire engine and the re-instatement of a dedicated aerial unit to be located at #6 Fire Station (3309 Taylor Street East) including hiring 14 new firefighters in 2006. In addition, SFPS has identified a new station location in the Lakewood Suburban Centre that will see design and construction of the station in 2007, and staffing and apparatus in 2008. Prior Capital Budget approval for the purchase of the land was received in 2003.

Complete study for the strategic placement of a fire station in the northwest growth sector of the city.

Saskatoon Fire and Protective Services completed and presented a growth plan identifying SFPS's future needs to service existing and future growth on the west side. SFPS has identified a new station location in the Westview neighbourhood (Avenue W and 33rd Street) that will see design and construction of the station in 2008, and staffing and apparatus in 2009.

Complete productivity and performance audit on Saskatoon Fire and Protective Services Department.

Saskatoon Fire and Protective Services has completed work with Prosser and Associates – Auditors, for the accumulation and provision of data, information, and external comparison data with the cities of Regina, Edmonton, Calgary, and Winnipeg. The first drafts of

Core Strategy

Community Safety continued

the auditor's findings have not been completed to date. It is expected that presentation of the audit to the Audit Committee of Council will occur in mid 2006.

Maintain a joint Hazardous Materials Response Program with Saskatoon Police Service for clandestine drug labs and potential explosive device incidents.

Both Saskatoon Fire and Protective Services and the Saskatoon Police Service maintain ongoing joint awareness and practical training in the integration of operational procedures for response to clandestine drug labs and potential explosive device incidents. A joint response emergency guideline has been developed and is currently being tested through practical scenarios. In addition, they are continuing to partner and dialogue with the RCMP (F Division) and the Regina Police integrated drug teams and the Provincial Department of Justice for a Provincial Response Plan including identified funding for both training and response needs.

Develop Emergency Medical Services (EMS) component of Urban Search and Rescue Team capabilities in cooperation with Saskatchewan Health, Saskatoon Health Region, and M.D. Ambulance.

The EMS component of the Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) Team was not completed in 2005. There are ongoing meetings held quarterly between Saskatchewan Health emergency response agencies, and the City's understanding is that discussions on the required new medical protocols for USAR teams are being considered along with the additional required training for fire and ambulance-based paramedics. Saskatoon Fire and Protective Services has been invited to participate in the discussions in early 2006, with the intent of a possible implementation plan in early 2007.

Improve the safety and security of residents through innovative programming.

The City of Saskatoon implemented red light cameras at the intersection of Avenue C and Circle Drive in October 2005, with the goal of improving traffic safety and reducing collisions. Fines from the red light camera program will be used to fund traffic safety projects.

Core Strategy

Community Safety continued

Optimize major emergency and disaster planning and preparedness to maintain critical infrastructure within the City.

The Saskatoon Police Service takes an active role on the City of Saskatoon's Emergency Measures Organization planning committee. In addition, the Police Service has been actively training members to ensure that personnel are properly trained to deal with protracted events.

The Emergency Measures Division of Saskatoon Fire and Protective Services has received approval of the Provincial Government to provide Basic Emergency Preparedness training in-house for civic staff. This training will qualify key civic staff in all essential service areas of the City to receive federally-funded training at the Emergency Preparedness College in Ottawa. Additionally, senior management participated in the annual, half-day emergency plan review sessions and twice annual individual meetings with the Emergency Measures Coordinator to update resource lists, review procedures, identify training needs, and emergency plan awareness of staff.

Optimize major emergency and disaster response planning and awareness education to enhance public safety and security.

Under the leadership of Saskatoon Fire and Protective Services, and in cooperation with other civic departments, the City of Saskatoon continues to provide public information on seasonal and possible emergency situations through an ongoing public awareness program including advertising on public transit, website information, printed material, training awareness videos, and drills in the schools, health care, and housing facilities. In 2005, practical scenarios involving private citizens and students were held to exercise the evacuation, transportation and emergency social services plans. In addition, the Emergency Measures Coordinator and Fire Chief continue to have quarterly meetings with the Saskatoon Emergency Planning Committee and the Saskatoon Industrial Mutual Assistance Aid Committee (private industry). The Fire Chief has also been asked to sit on the national advisory board for the Pelmorex Corporation "All Channel Alert System".

Core Strategy

Community Safety continued

Determine resources for an emergency evacuation, transportation, and social services plan.

The Emergency Measures Coordinator met through the year with the Saskatoon Police Service for the development of the Emergency Evacuation Plan; with Transit Services for the development of the Emergency Transportation Plan; and with Community Services on the ongoing development of the Emergency Social Services Plan. A full scale evacuation exercise (Operation Elvis) was conducted on October 21, 2005, including the evacuation of seniors from four high rise buildings in the downtown area, and transportation to a reception center by transit bus for processing and nourishment. The exercise identified valuable information for future refinement of the overall emergency plan.

Maintain crime prevention and reduction strategies through innovative programming in consultation and partnership with Saskatchewan Justice, Saskatchewan Corrections and Public Safety, Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations, Saskatoon Tribal Council, and Métis Nation - Saskatchewan.

Saskatoon Police Service coordinates the Crime Reduction Steering Committee and works with key stakeholders to develop programs to address primarily the break and enter crimes in Saskatoon. This Committee has also recently been involved in discussions on addressing gang related issues in Saskatoon. Further to this, City Planning Branch staff work to address some of the root causes of gang related activity by completing Local Area Plans to help revitalize neighbourhoods, conducting Neighbourhood Safety Audits, doing Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) workshops in various communities, and in reviewing park and facility designs before going to construction. City Planning Branch staff are also working on a committee for a Safe Neighbourhood project that includes representatives from Fire, Police, and Planning to work on a Crime Free Multi-housing and a Safe Neighbourhood Program.

As a result of a meeting of key stakeholders in September 2005, Saskatoon Fire and Protective Services has led and coordinated the formation of a Safe Housing Initiative comprised of representatives from Fire, Planning Branch, Saskatoon Health Region, Saskatoon Police Service, Saskatoon Housing Authority, DCRE, and Department of Justice Safe Communities and Neighbourhoods. The purpose of the initiative is to provide an opportunity for each agency to share

Core Strategy

Community Safety continued

intelligence and resources to address issues of substandard and unsafe housing conditions, including the possible existence of unlawful activity that may affect the overall quality of life in any Saskatoon community. The program will be officially launched in January 2006.

Report on the Pleasant Hill Local Area Plan Safety Audit recommendations.

The Pleasant Hill Local Area Plan Safety Audit was completed and tabled with City Council on June 27, 2005.

Ensure the highest standards in the collection, treatment, and delivery of potable water.

Complete the Compromised Water Quality Emergency Response Plan, and implement the risk communication (pre-education) component of the Plan.

Further review of the Compromised Water Quality Emergency Response Plan has been completed, and a presentation will be made to City Council in early 2006.

Implement first stage water distribution system pressure monitoring program.

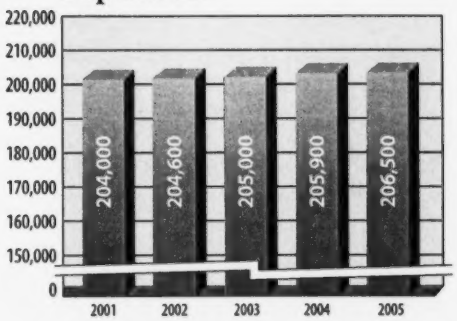
Due to problems with establishing a City "radio frequency" license, work will continue on securing access to wireless networking in 2006 for the water distribution pressure monitoring program.

Coordinate response to West Nile Virus with Saskatoon Health Region.

The City of Saskatoon partnered with the Saskatoon Health Region to issue joint news releases to the media throughout the summer about the West Nile Virus. In addition, the City posted weekly website updates on mosquito trap counts, ran newspaper ads, and distributed provincial West Nile posters and brochures to all civic buildings, leisure centres, and libraries.

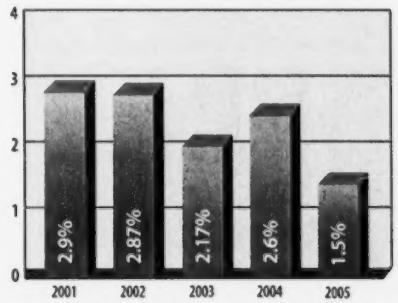
Key Statistics

Population

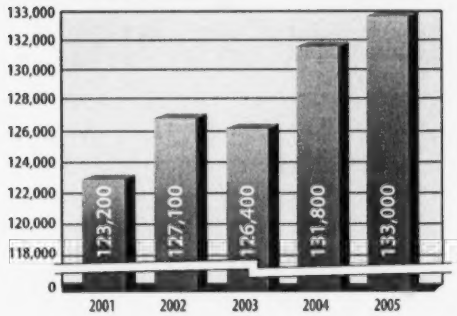


Source: Statistics Canada

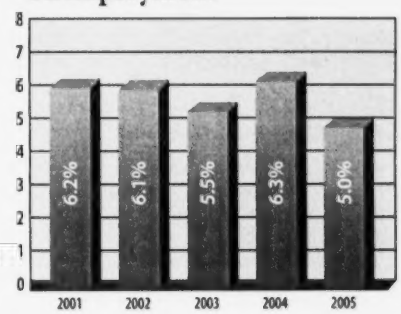
Average Consumer Price Index



Labour Force

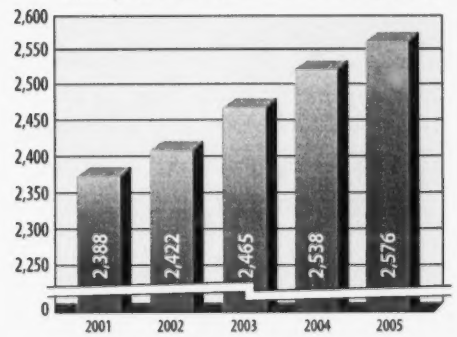


Unemployment

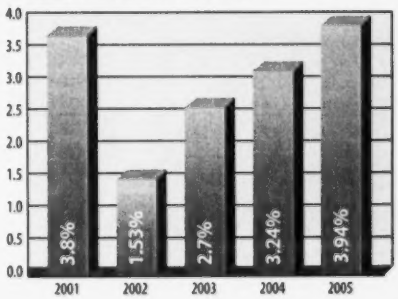


Municipal Budgeted Staff Years

Including Boards and Commissions - excluding Library



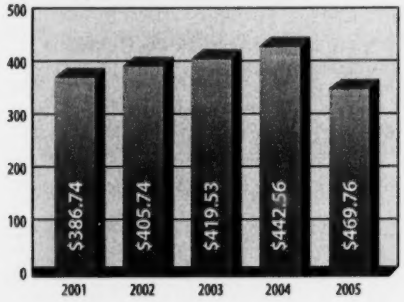
Mill Rate Increase



Key Statistics continued

Municipal Property Tax

Per Capita



Building Permits Statistics for 2005 vs 2004

	Number of Permits			Construction Value (000)		
Category	Dec 31/05	Dec 31/04	% Change	Dec 31/05	Dec 31/04	% Change
Residential	1619	1635	-1.0%	$67,924	$71,225	-4.6%
Apartments & Housing Projects	92	192	-52.1%	$28,248	$64,610	-56.3%
Commercial	266	243	9.5%	$52,889	$40,182	31.6%
Industrial	159	117	35.9%	$38,837	$22,741	70.8%
Institutional & Assembly	88	74	18.9%	$75,255	$15,597	382.5%
Other	220	220	0.0%	$13,445	$3,150	326.8%
TOTAL	2444	2481	-1.5%	$276,598	$217,505	27.2%

Summary of major projects approved in 2005

Centennial Collegiate	$17.2m	
New High Rise Apartment	$14.5m	
Water Treatment Plant	$11.3m	(included in Other above)
Soccer Centre	$10.5m	(included in Institutional & Assembly above)
Prairie Pride	$9.8m	
Centennial Auditorium	$8.3m	(included in Institutional & Assembly above)

City of
Saskatoon

100
Saskatoon
Our time to shine
2006